SHORT NOTICE QUESTIONS.

Purchase of Paddy.

1. *MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: Will the Government be pleased to state whether order R. O. C. No. 11260/43/C. F. S., dated 16th July 1943, re: purchase of paddy during next harvest, modifies the provisions in the previous press Communique dated 1st February 1943 to the effect that holders of lands whose total holdings are less than one acre in extent are not liable to sell to Government?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Food Grains Purchase Officer*): The G. O. is clear on the point. No holder of lands under paddy cultivation is exempted from liability to sell the prescribed quota.

Actual area under paddy

2. *MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: With reference to R. O. C. No. 11260/43/C. F. S. dated 16th July 1943, will the Government be pleased to state whether any and what steps have been taken to ascertain the actual area under paddy during the current season in the three southern taluks of Tovala, Agastisvaram and Kalkulam and also other taluks?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN: The Tahsildars of the taluks have been directed to ascertain the same and prepare registers.

Recent statement by the Dewan.

3. *MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: Will the Government be pleased to state whether the necessary modification of the rules re: purchase of paddy have been issued in accordance with the statement of the Dewan to this Assembly during the general discussions of the Budget, to the effect that it is not the desire of Government to take the whole paddy without making sufficient provision for the means of subsistence, seeds for cultivation, etc., and that the idea is to take only the balance that may remain after giving what is necessary for the land holder and that it is not at all the intention of Government to prevent the man who cultivates lands from getting the legitimate fruit of his enterprise?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN: No modifications are necessary to the existing rules. The Settlement Pattom is fixed after making due allowance for cost of cultivation, cultivators' share and land-holders' share. Due attention will be paid to essential and bonafide requirements of the producer before paddy in surplus of the minimum quota is purchased.

MR. C. JABAMONY NADAR: May I know whether the lease of the small land holders will be purchased from them when the Government are satisfied that the production is not sufficient for it?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN: A minimum quota is prescribed in this case irrespective of the requirement of the party. At the same time a portion of the produce is given to the cultivator as his share and another portion to the land holder as his share from the gross produce, the minimum quota of Settlement Pattom being only the balance remaining after such deductions.

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MR. K. KUNJU PANICKAR: May I know from the Government whether the dues allotted will be cleared from this area if there is a failure of crops, in the season?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN: If there is a complete failure of crops it will not be collected.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

THE TRAVANCORE DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY BILL.

PRESIDENT: We will now proceed with the legislative business. Mr. Legal Remembrancer.

MR. K. G. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI: Sir, Mr. E. Subramonia Iyer has to propose the names for the Joint Committee on the Travancore Disposition of Property Bill.

MR. E. SUBRAMONIA IYER: (*Nominated*) Sir, I move that the following members may be nominated to the Joint Committee on the Travancore Disposition of Property Bill.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Deputy President*): Sir, I rise to a point of Order. I was referring to the proceedings of the Assembly on this Bill. I find that the only motions that were carried were that the Bill be read in the Assembly and that the Bill be referred to the other Chamber. The motion that the Bill be referred to a Joint Committee is not proper at this stage. Under Rule 51, if the motion that the Bill be referred to a Joint Committee be passed by this House, then it must be concurred in by the other House and the motion for the constitution of a Joint Committee may be made thereafter. I therefore raise the question whether Mr. Subramonia Iyer's motion is in order.

MR. K. G. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI: Speaking subject to correction, I may say that the motion came from the other House. Mr. Narayana Iyer moved that the bill be referred to a Joint Committe. That was put and carried. So this is in order.

PRESIDENT: The position that has developed is this. When the question that the bill be taken into consideration was put before the House last time, in the course of discussion it was discovered that it would be well, having regard to the legislative projects in both Houses that a Joint Committee go into the Bill. The bill will have to come, before the House and then the motion for the constitution of the Joint Committee has to be made. I leave it entirely to the House whether this motion should be made just now.

The House agreed.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR: To make the matter clear, Sir, I think there should have been a message to this House from the other House. I want to know whether this motion is made on the basis of such a message from the other House.

PRESIDENT: The Secretary to the Assembly read that message here. He stated that the Sri Chitra State Council has decided to form a Joint Committee on the Travancore Disposition of Property Bill and conveyed the message to this House that this House also elect members to that Committee.

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